### REPORT

OF

## THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

IN ANSWER TO

A resolution of the Senate calling for a statement showing the names and appropriate description of all vessels of the navy of the United States which have been captured, lost, or destroyed, &c.

MARCH 1, 1859.—Read; motion to print referred to the Committee on Printing. 12, 1859.—Report in favor of printing the usual number submitted, considered, and agreed to.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, February 26, 1859.

Six: In reply to the resolution of the Senate adopted February 25, \$58, directing the Secretary of the Navy to "furnish to the Senate a tabular form a statement showing the names and appropriate description of all vessels of the navy of the United States which have been captured, lost, or destroyed," &c., I have the honor to submit the with a tabular statement containing the information called for, so first it has been practicable to obtain it from the files and records of the leparament.

Vith respect to so much of the resolution as inquires whether any pured by the enemy in a neutral port "have been reclaimed enemy or from any neutral power," and whether any mersulant sel justly captured by the United States navy "has, from dictated by state policy, been taken from the captors and previous owners," the department addressed a community he Secretary of State, a copy of which and of the reply is transmitted.

partment has no official knowledge of any "ships-of-war or rmed vessels captured by our navy and subsequently taken service of the United States, failing a condemnation by our state, or without a just and regular valuation of them having been adde."

Information heretofore laid before Congress from this department and other sources, which appears to come within the scope of the present resolution, may be found in a printed form in the "American State Papers" volume of "Naval Affairs," pages 405, 415, 416. In

the case of the prize Levant, which was retaken by the enemy in a neutral port, the report of the committee of the House of Representatives was followed by an act of Congress, approved April 26, 1816 appropriating the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars for distribution among the commander, officers and crew of the frigate Constitution

During the war with Mexico several prizes of inconsiderable value were taken into the public service, but it is believed that in every case there was a condemnation, an appraisement, and payment of the appraisement.

praised value.

In any case where a prize has been taken into the public service and paid for, whether under the special authority of Congress or otherwise, it would be difficult for the department now to determine from any information in its possession that the compensation to the captors was other than "fair or equitable."

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

ISAAC TOUCEY.

Hon. John C. Breckinridge, President of the Senate.

#### NAVY DEPARTMENT, March 11, 1858.

SIR: By resolutions of the Senate agreed to on the 25th ult., the Secretary of the Navy is directed to furnish a statement of "the names, character, and force of all prizes of enemy's vessels-of-war captured by the United State's navy which were taken by said enemy in neutral ports, by which the captors were deprived of a right to property therein, which right was conferred upon them by the law regulating the apportionment and distribution of prize money arising from captures made by equal or inferior forces; whether prizes so taken have been reclaimed from the enemy or from any neutral power which has thus, in violation of international law, permitted prizes so situated to be carried from its port or ports by an enemy. And further, how or whether the series captors have been compensated or sustained in their right to property thus acquired; and so far as the records of this department may not supply the information, that he cause the same to be compiled from other sources (if such there be) worthy, in his judgment, of reliance, designating in such case the one from the other."

And he is further directed to state "whether any merchant vessel has been justly captured by the United State's navy which has not been sent home for judicial examination or condemnation, but which has, from motives dictated by state policy, been taken from the captors and restored to previous owners; whether any, and if any, a fair and equitable remuneration has been made to the captors for restorations

thus made."

As the records of this department do not show in what cases reclamations have been made on foreign governments, founded on the re-capture in neutral ports of enemy's vessels-of-war captured by the United States navy; nor whether any merchant vessel captured by the United States navy has, from motives dictated by state policy, be

restored to previous owners, I have the honor to request, if the information required, or any part of it, exists in the Department of State, that it may be communicated to this department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. TOUCEY.

Hon. Lewis Cass, Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, March 29, 1858.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, requesting certain information supposed to be in this department, called for by a resolution of the Senate of the 25th of last month. In reply I have the honor to inform you that, after the most diligent search, no information of the character desired can be found in this department.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

LEWIS CASS.

Hon. ISAAC TOUCEY, Secretary of the Navy.

Court of inquiry, June 17, 1823; loss ascribable to greater degree of confidence in the pilot than is

# Statement of vessels of the navy of the United States which have been captured, lost, or destroyed since the year 1798.

Name of vesse.l	Rate.	Guns.	Commanded by—	Captured, lost, or destroyed.	Where it occurred.	Time.	Remarks.
Albany	Sloop Ship Schooner Schooner	20 20 4 12	Com. J. T. Gerry Lieut. R. Basset. Lieut. J. M. Dale	Lost Broken up Sunk Lost	Gulf of Mexico Norfolk Port Royal Sound Carysfort reef	Sept., 1854 1829 July 11, 1814 1822	Court of inquiry, December 13, 1822; conduct of
Alligator	Sloop Ship Sloop	1 18 16	Sailing Master R. Sheppard Master Com. W. H. Allen	Captured Burnt Captured	New Orleans	1814 1814 Aug. 14, 1813	Court of inquiry, April 18, 1815; no blame, except
BostonBoston	Ship	28 18	Com, G. F. Pearson	Burnt Lost	Washington Eletheura, West Indies.	1814 1846	Court martial, January, 1847; Commander Pearson and Lieut. F. S. Haggerty each sentenced to be suspended for one year and admonished by the Secretary of the Navy; sentences approved and
Boxer Carolina Chesapeake Chippewa Columbia Concord Congress	Brig Schooner Ship Ship Ship Ship	14 14 36 14 44 18 36	Lieut. J. Porter Com. J. D. Henley Captain J. Lawrence Lieut. G. C. Read Com. W. Boerum Captain J. Sever.	Lost Blew up Captured Lost Burnt Lost Broken up	Off Balize New Orleans Off Boston Caicos, West Indies On the stocks East coast of Africa Norfolk	1817	executed. Court of inquiry, Jan. 15, 1818; no blame imputed. Court of inquiry, Jan. 30, 1817; no blame imputed.
Cyane. Eagle Edith Enterprise Epervier Etna. Erie Essex	Steamer Schooner Ship Bomb brig. Ship	34 3 2 12 18 11 18 32	Licut. Sidney Smith Lieut. J. McCormick Lieut. J. Gallagher Lieut. J. T. Shubrick	Captured Lost Lost Lost Broken up	Philadelphia. Lake Champlain Calfornia. Little Curaçoa. At sea New Orleans. Boston	1836. Jan. 3, 1813 1849. 1823. 1815. 1812.	Court of inquiry, April 4, 1814; no blame imputed. Court of inquiry, Jan. 9, 1850; no blame imputed.
FerretFerretFerretFrolicFrolicGrampusGrampusGrenral Green	Ship Schooner Schooner Ship Steamship. Schooner Ship	8 3 18 30 12 28	Captain D. Porter Lieut. L. Kearny Midshipman S. M. Booth Master Com. J. Bainbridge Master Com. J. T. Newton Lieut. A. E. Downes Captain C. R. Perry	Captured Lost Captured Blew up Lost Burnt	Valparaiso Stony inlet West Indies Off Havana Brooklyn Off Charleston Washington	Mar. 28, 1814 1814 1825 April 20, 1814 1829 1843 1814	Court of inquiry, April 11, 1814; no blame imputed.  Court of inquiry, April 20, 1815; no blame imputed.  Court of inquiry, July 6, 1829; no blame imputed.
Greenwich	Ship Sloop Schooner Ship Gun-boat	. 44	Lieut. J. M. Gamble Lieut. S. Smith Lieut. D. Deacon Lieut. U. P. Levy	Burnt Captured Captured Broken up	Marquesas islands Lake Champlain Lake Ontario Norfolk Bay of Honduras	1814 June 3, 1813 Aug. 10, 1813 1841 Feb. 12, 1823	Court of inquiry, April 4, 1814; no blame imputed. Court of inquiry, Sept. 2, 1814; no blame imputed. Court of inquiry, June 177, 1823; loss ascribable to

	Rehooner	1 -1		1.out	No.		
Hornet	Brig	1 18	Master Com. O. Norris	Lost	Off Tampico	Sept. 10, 1829	
Hornet	Brig Schooner	5		Broken up	Norfolk	1820	
Insurgent	Ship	36	Captain P. Fletcher	Lost	At sea	July, 1800	
Intrepid	Ketch	4	Master Com. R. Somers	Blew up	Off Tripoli	1804	
Java	Ship	44		Broken up	Norfolk	1842	# . 41 1 0 11 17 1014 1 671
John Adams	Ship	28	Captain C. Morris	Burnt,	Hampden, Me	1814	Court of inquiry, October 11, 1814; conduct of Lieu-
							tenant M., officers, and crew entirely approved.
Julia	Schooner	9	Sailing Master J. Traub	Captured	Lake Ontario	Aug. 10, 1813	Court of inquiry, Sept. 2, 1814; no blame imputed.
Louisiana	Ship	16	banning master 5. 11aab	Broken up	New Orleans	1821	
		6		Lost	At sea	1820	
Lynx	Schooner		Lieut. J. R. Madison				
Macedonian	Ship	38		Broken up	Norfolk	1835	
Missouri	Steamship	10	Capt. J. T. Newton	Burnt	Gibraltar	1843	Court martial, Sept., 1844; Capt. Newton sentenced
							to suspension for two years from Oct. 12, 1844;
							remitted March 3, 1845; Chief Engineer John
							Faron, jr., sentenced to be admonished and sus-
The state of the s	1						pended for one year; remitted March 18, 1845.
Nautilus	Brig	12	Lieut. W. M. Crane	Captured	Off New York	July 16, 1812	Court of inquiry, Sept. 26, 1812; no blame imputed.
Natchez	Ship	18		Broken up	New York	1840	
		14				1826	
Nonesuch	Schooner	14				1020	G . 41 . 4 00 101# 11 1
Ohio	Schooner	1.	Sailing Master M. Cally	Captured	Lake Erie	Aug. 12, 1814	Court of inquiry, Aug. 29, 1815; no blame imputed.
Onkahye	Schooner	2	Lieut. O. H. Berryman	Lost	Carscos R., W. I	1848	Court of inquiry, Aug. 8, 1848; no blame imputed.
	Ship	18		Broken up	New York	1828	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
						1841	
Peacock	Ship	18	Lieut. W. L. Hudson	Lost	Columbia River		
Petrita	Steamer	1	Lieut. S. B. Bissel	Sunk	Off Alvarado	1848	
Philadelphia	Ship	36	Capt. W. Bainbridge	Wrecked	Off Tripoli	1803	Court of inquiry, June 29, 1805; no blame imputed.
Pickering	Brig	14	Lieut. B. Hillar	Lost	At sea	1800	
		12	Lieut. W. Taylor		West Indies	1833	Court of inquiry, Jan. 24, 1834; no blame imputed.
Porpoise	Schooner			Lost		1000	Court of inquiry, Jan. 24, 1654, no biame imputed.
Porpoise	Brig	4	Master W. K. Bridge	Lost	Bashes Pass, E. I. sea	Sept. 1854	
President	Ship	44	Com. S. Decatur	Captured	Off New York	Jan. 15, 1815	Court of inquiry, April 11, 1815; no blame imputed.
Princeton	Steamship.	9		Broken up	Boston	1849	
						July 11, 1814	Court of inquiry, April 18, 1815: errors committed,
Rattlesnake	Brig	14	Lieut. J. Renshaw	Captured	At sea	July 11, 1014	
							but vessel not lost through intention or neglect.
Retaliation	Schooner	14	Lieut. W. Bainbridge	Captured	West Indies	1798	
Revenge	Schooner	12	Lieut O. H. Perry	Lost	Off Newport	1811	Court of inquiry, Jan. 26, 1811; no blame imputed.
		2		Captured		Sept. 5, 1814	Court of inquiry, May 12, 1815; no blame imputed.
Scorpion	Schooner.		Lieut. Daniel Turner		Lake Huron		Court of inquity, May 12, 1015, no blame imputed.
Sea Gull	Pilot boat	2	Passed Mid'n J. W. E. Reid	Lost	Off Cape Horn	1839	
Sea Horse	Schooner	1	Sailing Master Johnson	Burnt	New Orleans	1814	
Shark	Schooner	12	Lieut. N. M. Howison	Lost	Columbia river	1846	Court of inquiry, March 1, 1847; no blame imputed.
		16	Lieut. J. N. Nicholson		At sea	July 12, 1814	Court of inquiry, Sept. 2, 1815; conduct of Lieut.
Siren	Brig	10	Lieut. J. IV. Micholson	Captured	At sca	3 thy 12, 1014	
							N., officers and crew, approved.
Somers	Schooner	2	Lieut. Conklin	Captured	Lake Erie	Aug. 12, 1814	Court of inquiry, Aug. 29, 1815; no blame imputed.
Somers	Brig	10	Lieut. R. Semmes	Sunk	Off Vera Cruz	1846	Court of inquiry, Dec. 16, 1846; no blame imputed.
		3		Broken up	Norfolk	1820	
Spitfire	Ketch	0					
Sylph	Schooner	1	Lieut. H. E. V. Robinson	Lost	West Indies	1831	
Tigress	Schooner	1	Sailing Master Chaplin	Captured	Lake Huron	Sept. 3, 1814	Court of inquiry, May 12, 1815; no blame imputed.
Truxton	Brig	10	Com. E. W. Carpender	Lost	Tuspan bar	1846	Court martial, February, 1847; Commander Carpen-
THATOM	Ding	10	Comi Li III Carponaci I III I	2000	Zaspan sa titi titi		der sentenced to be dismissed the service, but
							recommended to clemency and the sentence miti-
	Land State of the land of the						gated to suspension for twelve months.
Vengeance	Bomb brig .	3		Broken up	New York	1818	
					New York	1829	
Vesuvius	Bomb brig .	11		Broken up			Court of inquire May 17 1919, no blome imputed
Viper	Brig	10	Lieut. J. D. Henley	Captured	At sea	Jan. 17, 1813	Court of inquiry, May 17, 1813; no blame imputed.
Vixen	Brig	12	Lieut. G. W. Reed	Captured	At sea	Nov. 22, 1812	Court of inquiry, May 31, 1813; no blame imputed.
					And the second second second second		

Beheoner. 4 Lost.

## STATEMENT—Continued.

Name of vessel.	Rate.	Guns.	Commanded by-	Captured, lost, or destroyed.	Where it occurred.	Time.	Remarks.
Vixen	Ship Schooner Ship Schooner	74 18 18 3	Master Com. J. Blakely Lieut, B. Kennon	Broken up Captured Lost	New YorkAt sea	1843 1812 1814 1824	Court of inquiry, Dec. 28, 1812; no blame imputed



